Attorney's Docket No. 12477-016001

Applicant: Chad Nelson et al. Serial No.: 10/809,286 Filed: March 25, 2004

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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

The air return bulkhead 300 includes a lower end that is wider than the upper end. The upper end spans across the interior portion 132 of the temperature control unit [[132]]130 and surrounds at least a portion of the inlet 135 (FIG. 2). In this embodiment, the face panel 302 at the upper end of the bulkhead 300 extends substantially parallel to and abuts against the interior portion 132 of the temperature control unit 130. The lower end of the bulkhead 300 extends substantially from one sidewall 106 of the trailer 100 to the opposing sidewall 106. This increases the amount of return airflow pathways near the floor 102 because the air return port 306 may receive air proximal to each sidewall 106 of the trailer 100 in addition to receiving air from proximal to the central portion floor 102.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

The air return bulkhead 300 is toollessly mounted to the front wall 110 of the trailer 100. In other words, the bulkhead 300 may be mounted to (and removed from) the front wall 110 without the use of handheld tools, such as an air-powered rivet gun or a screwdriver device. In the embodiment shown in FIG. 3, the air return bulkhead 300 is toollessly mounted to the front wall 100 using a strap 320 and mounting flanges 310. In other embodiments, however, the bulkhead 300 may be toollessly mounted to the front wall 110 using one or more straps 320, one or more flanges 310, one or more toolless brackets or connectors, or any combination thereof. Because the air return bulkhead 300 may be quickly mounted to and removed from the front wall 110, a significant amount of maintenance/repair time may be saved by using such a bulkhead 300 in a trailer 100 or other cargo container. Moreover, because the air return bulkhead 300 is toollessly mounted to the front wall 110, the trailer operator does not have to wait until the

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proper handheld tools are available to gain access to the interior side of the bulkhead 300 or the inlet 135 of the temperature control unit [[135]]130.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

In addition, the air return bulkhead 300 is retained against the front wall 110 by the strap 320 that extends across the floating surface 302 of the bulkhead 300 and connects to a receptacle 326 using a buckle 325. A loose end 321 of the strap 320 may be pulled to pressure the bulkhead 300 against the front wall 110 and the interior portion 132. The strap 320 may use any connection means other than a buckle 325 and receptacle 326 so as to support the bulkhead 300 against the front wall 110. A portion of the face panel 302 may be specially adapted to receive the strap 320. For example, that portion of the face panel 302 may include ribs 309 that slightly protrude from the surface of the face panel 302 (as perhaps best shown in FIG. 4) and guide the proper placement of the strap 320. In another example, that portion of the face panel 302 may be textured or sized appropriately to receive the strap 320. Neither the flanges [[320]]310 nor the strap 320 require the use of handheld tools when mounting or removing the air return bulkhead 300 to the front wall 110, thus permitting the bulkhead 300 to be toollessly mounted to (and removed from) the front wall 110 of the trailer 100.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 5 shows a close-up view of the flange 310 and the offset portion 308 of the air return bulkhead 300. FIG. 6 shows a cross-section view of that flange 310 and that portion 308. The flange 310 is mounted to the front wall 110 of the trailer 100 using a fastener 314 or other attachment means so that a gap exists between an angled portion 315 of the flange 310 and the front wall 110. In other embodiments, the flange 310 may be integral with the front wall [[100]]110 with a portion of the flange 310 extending outward from the front wall 110. The bulkhead 300 is toollessly mounted to the front wall 110 by maneuvering the tip 316 of the

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flange 310 through the slot 312. The angled portion 315 is then passed through the slot 312 such that at least a portion of the bulkhead 300 is maintained between the angled portion 315 and the front wall 110. In this embodiment, the angled portion 315 extends from the front wall 110 at an upward angle so that the bulkhead 300 is increasingly compelled toward the front wall 110 as the bulkhead 300 is lowered. The offset portion 308 does not necessarily contact the front wall 110 because the offset portion 308 is positioned closer to the face panel 302 than the support portions 307 and the peripheral portions 304. Thus, the peripheral portions 304 may form a sufficient seal with the front wall 110 even though the offset portion 308 does not abut the wall 110 when mounted on the flanged 310.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

In yet another example, FIGS. 9-10 show a bracket 450 that may be fastened to or integrally form with the front wall 110. The bracket 450 includes one or more guide portions 452 that define channels 454 between the guide portions 452 and the front wall 110. The guide portions 452 are adapted to receive tongue portions 412 that extend from the peripheral portions 404 of the air return bulkhead 400. One bracket 450 may be positioned on each of the two sides of the bulkhead [[450]]400. As such, the bulkhead 400 may be toollessly mounted to the front wall 110 by moving each tongue portions 412 into the corresponding channel 454 where the tongue portion 412 abuts the guide stop 456, thus causing the peripheral portions 404 to supported against the front wall 110.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

In a further example, FIGS. 11-12 show toolless connectors 550 that may be used to support the air return bulkhead 500 against the front wall 110. Similar to the bulkhead described in connection with FIGS. 3 and 4, the bulkhead 500 includes offset portions 508 for receiving flanges that extend from the front wall 110. In this embodiment, each toolless connector 550

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includes a spring device 554 that presses a plate 552 against the bulkhead 500 (either the peripheral portion 504 or the face panel 502). The spring device 554 is coiled around a shaft 556 that is fastened to the front wall 110 such as by threaded interconnection. The shaft 556 may be rectangular or include a key so as to prevent the plate 552 from spinning around the shaft 556. Accordingly, the bulkhead 500 may be toollessly mounted to the front wall [[100]]110 when the flanges are guided through the offset portions 508 (in a manner similar to that previously described in connection with FIG. 3) and the toolless connectors 550 are adjusted to press against the bulkhead 500.